IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A mobile communication device, comprising:

    a set of keys organized as a keyboard, wherein each key of said set of keys has a first assigned function for entering alphanumeric text;

    at least a subset of keys included in said set of keys and arranged in a pre-determined configuration, wherein each key of said subset has a second assigned function for entering alphanumeric text; and

    a first selection of keys provided for entering numbers and telephone number related symbols in accordance with said second assigned function, wherein said first selection of keys is compressed by said subset of keys;

    a second selection of keys provided for entering control letters in accordance with said first assigned function, wherein said control letters have control functions in relationship with dialing of a telephone number, wherein said second selection of said keys is comprised by said set of keys;

    at least one of a plurality of applications executable on said mobile communication device and adapted to switch a keyboard operation mode into a first mode and into a second mode;

    wherein said set of keys is operable with said keyboard operation mode being in said first mode; and

    wherein said first selection of keys and said second selection of keys are operable with said keyboard operation mode being in said second mode; mode.

    a mode selecting key for switching an input mode into a first mode and into a second mode, said mode selecting key being operable to change modes in at least one of said plurality of applications;

    wherein while said keyboard operation mode is in said first mode:

    said set of keys each having a first assigned function is operable with said input mode being in said first mode; and

    said subset of keys each having a second assigned function is operable with said input mode being in said second mode;

2

a keyboard controller adapted to receive signals from said keyboard and signals from said mode selecting key, and adapted to generate commands in accordance with said received signals and able to transmit said commands to at least one of said plurality of applications;

a first set of commands is provided operable with said input mode being in said first mode and said keyboard operation mode being in said first mode, said first set of commands representing said first assigned function of said set of keys;

a second set of commands is provided operable with said input mode being in said second mode and said keyboard operation mode being in said first mode, said second set of commands representing said first assigned function of said set of keys, wherein in case said keyboard operation mode is in said second mode:

a third set of commands is provided, said third set of commands representing said second assigned functions of said first selection of keys and representing said first assigned functions of said second selection of keys.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) Method for controlling an operation of a keyboard of a mobile communication device, characterized by:

receiving a keyboard operation mode signal from at least one of a plurality of applications executable on the mobile communication device;

switching a keyboard operation mode into a first mode and into a second mode in accordance with said received keyboard operation mode signal;

in case said keyboard operation mode is in said first mode:

receiving an input mode signal;

switching an input mode into a first mode and into a second mode in accordance with said received input mode signal;

receiving an input signal;

generating a command from said received input signal in combination with said input mode, said command being one of a plurality of commands including a first set of commands generated in said input mode being in said first mode and a second set of commands generated in said input mode being in said second mode, said first set of commands representing first assigned functions of a set of keys of said keyboard, said second set of commands representing second assigned functions of a subset of keys of said keyboard; and

transmitting said generated command to at least one of said plurality of applications;

in case said keyboard operation mode is in said second mode:

receiving an input signal;

generating a command from said received input signal, said command being one out of a third set of commands; said third set of commands representing said second assigned functions of a first selection of keys of said subset of keys and said first assigned functions of a second selection of keys of said set of keys; and

transmitting said generated command to at least one of said plurality of applications.

19. (Previously Presented) A mobile communication device, comprising:

4

a set of keys organized as a keyboard, said set of keys each having a first assigned function for entering alphanumeric text;

wherein at least a subset of keys included in said set of keys is arranged in a pre-determined configuration, keys of said subset each having a second assigned function for entering alphanumeric text; and

a plurality of applications executable on said mobile communication device; characterized in that

a portion of said keys comprises a first selection of keys of said subset of keys and a second selection of keys of said set of keys,

wherein said first selection of keys is provided for entering numbers and telephone number related symbols in accordance with said second assigned function,

wherein said second selection of keys is provided for entering control letters in accordance with said first assigned function, said control letters having a control function in relationship with the entering of telephone numbers;

at least one of said plurality of applications is adapted to switch a keyboard operation mode into a first mode and into a second mode;

said set of keys and said at least one subset of keys included in said set of keys are operable with said keyboard operation mode being in said first mode;

said portion of keys is operable with said keyboard operation mode being in said second mode;

a mode selecting key for switching an input mode into a first mode and into a second mode, said mode selecting key being operable to change modes in at least one of said plurality of applications;

wherein while said keyboard operation mode is in said first mode:

said set of keys each having a first assigned function is operable with said input mode being in said first mode; and

said subset of keys each having a second assigned function is operable with said input mode being in said second mode; said device further comprising:

a keyboard controller adapted to receive signals from said keyboard and signals from said mode selecting key, and adapted to generate commands in accordance with said received signals and able to transmit said commands to at least one of said plurality of applications;

a first set of commands is provided operable with said input mode being in said first mode and said keyboard operation mode being in said first mode, said first set of commands representing said first assigned function of said set of keys; and

5

a second set of commands is provided operable with said input mode being in said second mode and said keyboard operation mode being in said first mode, said second set of commands representing said first assigned function of said set of keys;

wherein in case said keyboard operation mode is in said second mode:

a third set of commands is provided, said third set of commands representing said second assigned functions of said first selection of keys and representing said first assigned functions of said second selection of keys.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) Device for controlling an operation of a keyboard of a mobile communication device, comprising:

means for receiving a keyboard operation mode signal from at least one of a plurality of applications executable on the mobile communication device;

means for switching a keyboard operation mode into a first mode and into a second mode in accordance with said received keyboard operation mode signal;

in case said keyboard operation mode is in said first mode:

means for receiving an input mode signal;

means for switching an input mode into a first mode and into a second mode in accordance with said received input mode signal;

means for receiving an input signal;

means for generating a command from said received input signal in combination with said input mode, said command being one of a plurality of commands including a first set of commands generated in said input mode being in said first mode and a second set of commands generated in said input mode being in said second mode, said first set of commands representing first assigned functions of a set of keys of said keyboard, said second set of commands representing second assigned functions of a subset of keys of said keyboard; and

means for transmitting said generated command to at least one of said plurality of applications;

in case said keyboard operation mode is in said second mode:

means for receiving an input signal;

means for generating a command from said received input signal, said command being one out of a third set of commands; said third set of commands representing said second assigned functions of a first selection of keys of said subset of keys and said first assigned functions of a second selection of keys of said set of keys; and

means for transmitting said generated command to at least one of said plurality of applications.